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"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24, 1917.



"PEACE ON EARTH. GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

THIS has been the Christmas sentiment for nearly twenty centuries, and it is America's sincere and honest sentiment today, notwithstanding all our preparation for the slaughter of our fellowmen.

America is at heart pacifist. It so loves peace, so loves humanity throughout the world, that it is going to sacrifice, suffer, bleed that the children nations of the world, little Belgium, Switzerland, Serbia and Holland and Denmark, and all the infant nations of the Western Hemisphere shall have permanent peace, a continuing opportunity to enjoy liberty, pursue happiness and worship God after their own fashion. We are a militant pacifist, too, in self-defense and in defense of all the great peoples who have grown toward the light, matured under the inspiration of the Prince of Peace.

In the early days of Christianity, there were individual martyrs who died for peace and good will's sake, and who, from their piles of blazing fagots or beds of torturing machines, blessed those who, knowing not what they did, tortured and slaughtered them. Today, there are martyr nations.

America offers sacrifice of her all because "Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men"—Christ's ideal, imperilled as never before by a mighty power whose policy is war, tyranny and the man-debasing savagery of autocracy.

We turn no greedy eyes upon other people's possessions. Neither in our armed camps nor in our homes is there hatred. This day we would gladly take our fellows of Germany and Austria by the hand and say, "Welcome among those who are ready to die for peace on earth and good will toward all men." We arm and fight and will surely suffer in the knowledge that our power is mightily solely because Christ was born in the manger, lived, taught, died that all men might be brothers.

Looking the world over, the Lord beheld His earthly kingdoms ravaged by a mad beast, His people tearing at each others' throats, His temples in ashes, sacrifice and greed throttling faith, charity and spirituality, all His work trodden under the Satanic hoofs of the mighty hordes of selfishness, tyranny, wrong and materialism. He called. And America has answered "Here!" and has raised from the smothering dust His standard on which is written, in the blood from His side at Golgotha, "Peace on earth. Good will toward men!"

Hitherto, our presents to Him on His birthday anniversary have been pretty much of good dinners for ourselves, of unlimited hilarity, considerable of wastefulness and a large portion of spiritual indifference. This day, beloved Prince of Peace, we lay at Thy feet greater gifts than those Wise Men of the East ever dreamed of—our sons, fathers, husbands, brothers, our homes, our hopes, all that we have. We do it with glad hands and brave, cheerful hearts. It is for Thee. It is that Thy "Peace on earth. Good will toward men" shall not perish from the earth.

SMITH'S GOING A LOSS.
PROGRESSIVE Marion county farmers and those generally who have the best interests of the county at heart will view with considerable regret the retirement from the post of County Farm Agent of H. L. Smith, who has resigned to return to his home county, Berkeley, where he will resume farming on his own account.

Agriculture was in a backward state in Marion when Mr. Smith came here almost four years ago, and the field was not by any means an encouraging one. However, he went to work with an enthusiasm that would have done credit to a better prospect, and the results speak for themselves.

Not only did the more progressive farmers make long

RUFF STUFF

Oh, well, Santa can come in one of those new ranged hydroplanes.

Speaking of Santa Clause, he pulled a raw one on Postmaster Manley.

Never notified him Christmas was coming.

Results: about a million people trying to buy stamps at the postoffice this morning and only one window open.

Some one ought to take CEM aside and carefully explain to him that this is no longer a 2,500 population country town.

But do it carefully, the surprise will be great when it breaks through.

If it ever does get through.

rides under his tutelage, but he succeeded in reawakening an interest in farming and its possibilities throughout the whole county. The good work which Mr. Smith did will bear fruit for many years to come.

Marion county could do much better than it does in all kinds of husbandry. Even under the price levels which obtained before the war there ought to be money in farming in this county. It takes a combination of brains and energy to bring it out, however. And when we say energy we do not mean hard work. Old fashioned farming was little removed from drudgery of the worst sort. Modern farming is not any more onerous than working in a machine shop or on a railroad, and does not take any more of each day's time than those occupations do.

But one must know how to plan and how to make use machinery in order to secure maximum yields with this comparative ease. That is what good farm agents like H. L. Smith teach the farmer who has not had the advantage of a modern scientific college education in farming. It is to be hoped that no delay will occur in the selection of Mr. Smith's successor. The West Virginian hopes that Mr. Smith's future activities will be successful and well rewarded.

WAR AND POLITICS.
A PROPOS of President Wilson's advice to Minnesota Democrats to vote for the reelection of United States Senator Knute Nelson, who is a Republican and a statesman whose Americanism is above reproach, the Ohio State Journal the other day said:

There is one thing that the big war is going to do, and that is, it is going to kick politics out of the gutter and make it march along the high road of service to the people.

That we will have to reform our politics if we are to get anywhere with the war effort admits of no doubt, but unless we are very much mistaken most of the professional politicians will have to be left in the gutter when politics is taken out.

There are plenty of people in both parties whose partisanship is so intense that they put party loyalty above patriotism, and these must be suppressed. Of what good does it do for President Wilson to take high ground about a senatorial election in Minnesota when all the departments at Washington are taking advantage of the great expansion in the civil service to provide fat jobs for Democrats, who in some cases are conspicuously unfit for the places they get?

We agree that politics ought to be kicked out of the gutter, but it is going to be a dirty job, and if it ever is done it is going to lay low many men who have been conspicuous in the past and who have been figuring that the war means opportunity for themselves.

It is quite possible in the event that the war lasts for several years that even the political organizations as we know them now will be on the scrap heap when the end comes. The politician who is wise will keep that thought steadily in mind.

From one end of Russia to the other come reports of murder, looting and general lawlessness. When the Russian stomach revolts against this sort of thing some real history will be made in that country, but it must be admitted that the outlook for any large measure of democratic freedom for the people is not bright.

Yesterday it was Grafton's turn to have a bad fire, and five buildings were gutted in that town. Fairmont has certainly been fortunate this winter as compared with other West Virginia cities. The fires that have been happening all around us should make us additionally careful.

In another part of The West Virginian this evening is printed a brief Associated Press letter telling how the American Y. M. C. A. work began when the Expeditionary force landed in France. It is but a brief story, but it will interest all who have given for the support of this highly important part of the American war plans.

Christmas business is reported to have been very good in Fairmont. And if the merchants will take the trouble to compare notes they will find that it was better in the establishments that advertised than in the other kind.

Rear Admiral Niske is advocating an attack in force by air upon the carefully hidden German navy. The idea will strike many practical people as extremely fanciful, but after the 22,000 planes which are now building in this country reach the other side and the men who are to fly them have acquired some experience in maneuvering in large parties it might be undertaken. The United States is not a very warlike nation, but it has done more innovating in a military way than all the nations of Europe put together, and once we get into this war we may take the lead in developing the aerial side of it just as we took the lead in the development of the flying machine.

Merry Christmas to all.

SHORT AND SNAPPY

Instead of asking the scheduled time of a passenger train now, the general public merely says, "Well, how late is it today?"—Uniontown Evening Genius.

Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, introduced a bill yesterday to reduce the salaries of Senators and Representatives from \$7,500 to \$5,000 during the war. Even a deacon could not refrain from taking a bet that the bill will never become law.—Parkersburg Sentinel.

The red wine of Russia seems to have turned the heads of the Russian Reds—against one another.—Wheeling Register.

What Petrograd really wants is a provisional government that will dish out some provisions with its proclamations. Even newly born Democrats have stomachs.—Charleston Leader.

All's well at the pump station.

Guy out there does not have to shovel the coal so far since the new supply came in.

"Holiday rush at postoffice in full swim"—Headline.

And the best it could do this morning was to swim back.

Because the postal service on the railroads has blown up is no excuse why the local outfit should lay down.

Wonder where the Kaiser will eat Christmas dinner this year?

No matter; it's where he will eat the next one that is important.

Thoughts of that in all likelihood will spoil his appetite tomorrow.

The American lads "over there" will have turkey after all.

If the Rousches learn about that they are quite likely to wish they could declare themselves in on the feast.

But fraternizing does not go on the west front.

We'd rather send our Christmas greetings by way of one of those big French field guns we are practicing with.

Trotzky tells the correspondents at Petrograd that military opposition might be offered if the German peace terms are unacceptable to the Russians.

The only offensive the Bolsheviks can muster is a wordy one, and the hard headed militarists of Germany are not afraid of that.

Only thing that counts in this mad world is a mailed fist.

And that Russia has not got.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHAT GERMAN VICTORY WOULD MEAN TO AMERICA.

New York, Dec. 20.—(Editor The West Virginian)—I do not see how any student of human history can doubt that German victory in this war would mean that most of our four hundred years fight for political liberty has been in vain.

If you ask any number of Americans of foreign extraction and we are all of us that at some time, why they came to America, you will find that it was to escape one of the things that Germany stands for, or to seek one of the things that Germany denies.

With what risks and pains our forefathers crept from under the shadow of autocracy and militarism, and with what horror of darkness we see it stretch across the seas to us again. And behind the shadow is another menace so far removed from American thought that even yet we scarcely appreciate what it means, the loss of all that high ground of spiritual and political cooperation on which men and women meet together in America.

No one can keep pace with the German thought uncovered in this war and not realize that it threatens that noblest purchase of the centuries, the right of women to exercise their sacred function of motherhood only at the dictate of their own highest impulses.

The deliberate subordination of womanhood to mere breeding of military units, now going on in Germany, should bring every woman in the world up standing on the side of civilization.

MARY AUSTIN.

What People Say

and Some Side Remarks

Those people mean enough to begrudge the soldier boys their smokes need not read what Secretary Redfield says:

"I am sure the American people will be glad to add to the personal comforts of our boys who are fighting their battle," the Secretary says. "It is our fight, you know—the cause of every one of us. Let the boys have their smokes and have them generously. Let them feel that we are all behind them and that we think and care for them. So shall we add once to their comfort and to their fighting power."

Rey. Austin Wilson, who is conducting a protracted meeting at McCurdyville, is enthusiastic about that community.

"I never was treated so well in my life. I never was eaten so well in my life."

That is a great neighborhood for fine eating! When Mrs. Vina Gump fries chicken, when Mrs. Arthur Musgrave makes biscuits, when Mrs. Brookover bakes pumpkin pies, or Mrs. Grant Hawkins mashes potatoes putting in real cream and yellow butter, Hoover is entirely forgotten.

Mrs. Jennie Engle spoke to her class at the First M. E. Sunday school yesterday on the recent convention of the W. C. T. U. at Washington. Among other things, she said:

"President Wilson made an address and asked every mother or wife of a soldier to stand up. A large majority of the mighty throng rose to their feet."

Earl W. Oglebay, food administrator for West Virginia, has made the following statement:

"We are receiving no end of inquiries, which, boiled down, amount to this: 'Christmas falls

Hair Gray? Read This

This is a message of importance to all who have gray hair. Science has made a great discovery in Q-Ban. Gray or faded hair changes to a natural, uniform, lustrous, beautiful dark shade simply by applying Q-Ban. Works gradually and defies detection. Safe, sure, guaranteed harmless. All ready to use, 75c a large bottle, money back if not satisfied. Sold by Martins Drug Store and all good drug stores. Try Q-Ban Hair Tonic; Liquid Shampoo; Soap. Also Q-Ban Depilatory.

Q-Ban
Try
HAIR COLOR RESTORER

A Merry Xmas Wish

FROM CRANE

We want to extend to everyone the heartiest Christmas Greeting. We trust that you have taken advantage of our Christmas Service, and our Christmas offers and that, in whatever way we have served you that you are highly pleased. May your Holidays be fraught with good cheer, happiness and perfect contentment and may the New Year hold for you a promise of many good things and the fulfillment of your desires. Again, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CRANE'S
Drug Store

on Tuesday. Thursday is a meatless day. What shall we do? The answer is easy. Eat your regular Christmas dinner. This food administration does not forbid turkey, goose, duck, chicken or any fowl or game. In fact, it encourages their use."

University Student At Cook Hospital

C. L. King, of Ronceverte, a student at the West Virginia University, is a patient at Cook hospital having undergone an operation for appendicitis. Rev. L. L. Lightner, who is a patient at the hospital, is doing nicely at this time. Frank Kennedy has returned to his home after spending a short time in the hospital. Paul Arnett, who had been a patient at Cook hospital, has returned home as has also Gilbert Arnett, a son of L. C. Arnett. Verner Wade, who is a patient at the hospital, is doing nicely. Mrs. Clark, who was a patient at the hospital, has returned to her home in Mannington.

Mrs. Florence Hawker will arrive home tomorrow from Philadelphia where she had spent the last week.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

Red Cross Workers Busy
The Red Cross Drive is on in full swing in Mannington, and if the tireless energy of the ladies who were in charge of the solicitation booth in

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Holiday Greetings To All!

This "Walk-Over" Boot shop takes great pleasure in wishing everybody in Fairmont

A MERRY, MERRY XMAS!

And we thank you one and all for the most wonderful big business we have ever done.

OPEN LATE TONIGHT FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE—AND CLOSED ALL DAY TOMORROW.

Shurtleff & Welton
Shoes That Satisfy.

Our Savings Club and Merry Christmas are inseparable.

Those who joined last year have made sure provision for a merry Christmas.

Those who are joining the new club this year aim for the same happy result next Christmas.

Let's renew today the bond of friendship and co-operation that has made our associations so fruitful of kind thoughts and deeds.

It is with grateful feeling that

THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK OF FAIRMONT

sends to its friends and patrons this message of thoughts for past favors and wish for a

Merry Christmas to all!

Peoples National Bank

OF
Fairmont, W. Va.